

THE RIDDLE OF THE MICROBODY

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The general morphological features of microbodies -- a single membrane, a finely granular matrix, often a crystalloid core or other type of dense inclusion -- clothe a number of biochemical entities, known as peroxisomes, glyoxysomes, hydrogenosomes and glycosomes. The metabolic functions, possible mutual relationships, biogenesis and evolutionary origin of these entities will be discussed.

ANTI-TUMOUR ACTION OF HYDROXYANISOLE

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4-hydroxyanisole (4HA) is one of a number of phenolic antioxidants with a depigmenting action on skin. This action is due to a cytotoxic effect of 4HA, which exhibits preferential toxicity towards melanocytes. The possibility of employing 4HA in the chemotherapy of malignant melanoma has been examined.